process. The details of areas already open are placed at enclosed statement.

Statement

ARUNACHAL PRADESH:

Itanagar, Ziro, Along, Pasighat, Miao and Namdapha.

ASSAM:

Kaziranga National Park, Manas Bird Sanctuary, Guwahati City and Kamakhya Temple, Sibsagar, Jatinga Bird Sanctuary.

MANIPUR:

Loktak Lake, Imphal, Moirang, INA Memorial Keibul, Deer Sanctuary, Waithe Lake.

MEGHALAYA:

Shillong, Barapani, Cherapunji, Mawsayram, Jakeran, Ranikor, Thadlaskein, Nartiang, Tura & Siju.

MIZORAM:

Vairangte, Thingdawi and Aizawl.

SIKKIM:

(a) Gangtok, Rumtek Phodang, Pemayangtse;

(b) Zongri in West Sikkim.

Development of tourism at Charaideo

6904. SHRI BHADRESHWAR GOHAIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Charaideo at Sibsagar in Assam is the seat of more than 500 tombs of Ahom Kings and nobles, which is often called as "Jerusalem of the East and has rich potential for curious tourists;

(b) whether Government propose to improve Charaideo as a tourist centre, by providing infrastructural facilities for tourists;

(c) whether Government of Assam has recommended any schemes for development of tourism at Charaideo; and

(d) if not, whether Government would consider such proposal?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The State Government of Assam had submitted an incomplete proposal for Floodlighting of Charaideo and certain clarifications were sought from the State Government.

Yatri Niwas at Guwahati

6905. SHRI BHADRESWAR GOHAIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present position of the proposed Yatri Niwas at Guwahati in Assam;

(a) the reasons for there being no physical progress, till date; and

(c) by when the construction work is likely to be started and completed?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) It has been ascertained from the State Government that the work on site development, boundary wall and drainage is in progress. The work on main building could not start because of a court case on account of encroachment. The work of the construction on the main building will be resumed after clearance of the encroachment.

Development of tourism in Sibsagar

6906. SHRI BHADRESWAR GOHAIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Sibsagar in Assam is one of the

most beautiful places in the North-East and was the seat of the Ahom suzerainty;

(b) whether any scheme has been chalked out for Sibsagar for the development of tourism during the current year;

(c) what is the present position of the proposed light and music show project at Talatalghar at Sibsagar; and

(d) by when it is likely to be inaugurated?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The State Government of Assam had submitted an incomplete proposal for Sound & Light Show at Sibsagar and certain clarifications were sought from the State Government.

Development of tourism in Assam

6907. SHRI BHADRESWAR GOHAIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons with Government for not identifying any other area except Kamakhya in Assam to improve tourism, inspite of the rich potentials in the State; and

(b) what are the areas where infrastructure for tourism development would be provided during the current year in the State and what is the amount of money sanctioned for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Development of tourism in the State is primarily the responsibility of the State Government. The State Governments identify projects/schemes for development of tourism infrastructure in tourist places and based on inter se priorities and availability of funds, the Central Department of Tourism extends financial assistance. Apart frm Kamakhya, the Central Government have extended financial assistance to a number of other tourist places which include Manas, Kaziranga, Silbetta, Nalbari, Jakhalbanda, Chandubi, Guwahati, Bardoloni Bird Sanctuary, Kalain, Hajo, Bishwanath Ghat and Tinsukhia.

Services of Indian Airlines

6908. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the average number of Indian Airlines passengers per flight carried between Delhi—Guwahati, Delhi—Bagdogra, Delhi—Imphal Delhi—Dibrugarh and vice—versa, during the last three years, monthwise;

(b) the amount of losses incurred by Indian Airlines in its services to North-States during the last three years ending March, 1994;

(c) the details of Indian Airlines services in the said States making profits, route-wise, during the last three years;

(d) whether Government have received any specific proposal for air taxi operations in the North—Eastern States; if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether any existing air taxi operator has applied to Government for starting its operations in the States referred to in part (d) above; if so, the name of the said air taxi operator and the details of routes applied for and by when such operations are likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The details are given at Annexure I, (*See* appendix 170, Annexure No. 1331